



EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE  
SEOUL BUREAU



MSK-6010  
5 June 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - Seoul Bureau - May 1986

I. GENERAL

1. Against the backdrop of an official visit to Seoul by Secretary of State George Shultz on the 7th and 8th, the political and civil turmoil that has become an ever-present factor in South Korean daily life for the past several months continued in May. Seasonal demonstrations by students and workers have tended to peak in May, during which the Kwangju uprising and USIS sit-in occurred in past years. This year witnessed a bloody demonstration in the port city of Inchon on 3 May; violent student rallies throughout the month including a spectacular suicide on the 20th; the forcible occupation for a brief period of the U.S. Consulate in Pusan on the 21st; a series of attacks including occupation in one instance of branch offices of the KorAm Bank, a joint venture financed by U.S. and ROK business interests; and an effective but peaceful one-day strike on the 29th by Korean workers at all U.S. military bases throughout the Republic. Rock throwing students facing a battle line of ROK police with shields and "Darth Vader" helmets provided a dramatic cover for the international edition of Newsweek. During a student rally on the Seoul University campus on the 28th, an SNU freshman student poured gasoline on his clothing, set himself on fire and leaped to his death from the fourth floor after shouting anti-American slogans. A photo of the falling, burning body graced the pages of various international newspapers and journals.

The increasingly violent protest actions and occasionally strident anti-American sentiments expressed by demonstrators are a cause for worry for ROK Government officials and Embassy management, though if events follow the pattern of past years cooler heads will prevail over the course of the summer. One optimistic note was struck toward month's end when the two most prominent dissident politicians in the Republic, Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam, agreed that the opposition NKDP will participate in a special National Assembly session on constitutional issues to be held in June. Willingness of the "two Kims" to participate in this session probably will help defuse the frequently chaotic political situation in South Korea, at least for the short term.

2. In addition to George Shultz, Chief of Operations Group [redacted] visited Seoul for the first time from 11-14 May. On the 12th [redacted] was given a tour and briefing of the Joint Security Area at Panmunjom, where North Korean army personnel stared at him through binoculars and appeared to photograph him. The Bureau Chief's theory is that they reached the natural conclusion that large yankees are more important than not-so-large ones and reacted accordingly. On the 13th, following a leisurely lunch hosted by several of the Bureau's Korean monitors, we toured the athletics park area which will be the site of most events during the 1988 Olympics. After walking through the stadium complex we visited the Olympics souvenir shop, where everything from lapel pins to hand towels is for sale, all of it replete with Olympics logos. C/Ops somehow managed to restrain himself; he did not buy a stuffed three-foot Hodori, the smiling Siberian tiger selected as the official mascot of the 1988 Games and bearing a striking resemblance to Tony the Tiger, who has had a long and successful career pushing cornflakes.

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## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Monitorial/Editorial

After years of false starts and blind alleys, the Bureau seems to be on the verge of a breakthrough in monitoring Pyongyang television. On 4 June Deputy Chief [redacted] visiting Okinawa Bureau Engineer [redacted] and Chief Technician [redacted] installed a television monitor and video recorder in the Joint Security Area at Panmunjom. UN Command duty officers assigned to the JSA will record Pyongyang television transmissions for the Bureau, and it appears that usually we will be able to have the tapes delivered to the Bureau by courier within a day of broadcast. This means that for the first time in Bureau history we will receive Pyongyang TV recordings while the material transmitted is still current. [redacted] and Korean monitors are revising the Bureau's television coverage procedures accordingly.

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### B. Technical

On the 23d we learned that most of the Bureau's antenna field at Pyongtaek, about 45 miles south of Seoul, will be demolished within the next few weeks to make room for a large antenna array to be used by another agency. The Bureau now uses ten antennas at Pyongtaek, six of which will be removed. It may be possible to relocate one of the antennas, a 2,000-foot beverage, but only by reducing length of the antenna to about 1,400 feet. Though the full impact of this project won't be known for a few months, it seems likely that the Bureau's coverage of PRC regional stations will be affected. We are now working with U.S. Army personnel at Pyongtaek to arrange use of other antennas.

## III. ADMINISTRATION

### Personnel

1. Deputy Chief [redacted] returned from R&R in the United States on the 28th. During [redacted] absence from 4-28 May [redacted] filled in as acting deputy chief and chief editor.

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2. [ ] the Bureau's administrative assistant for the past 18 months, left Seoul on the 31st to accompany her husband who has been reassigned to the United States. [ ] who replaces [ ] began working for the bureau on the 11th.

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#### IV. VISITS

1. [ ] Chief of Operations Group, visited the Bureau from 11-14 May as apt of a management tour of Far East Bureaus.

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2. [ ] a Production Group linguist in Korea on private travel, visited the Bureau on the 28th for an orientation and briefing.

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3. Okinawa Bureau Engineer [ ] was in Seoul from 2-5 June, for consultations with U.S. Army personnel concerning removal of the Bureau's antenna field at Pyongtaek, and for a routine regional inspection.

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[ ]  
Chief, Seoul Bureau

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#### Attachment

##### Monthly Production Report

cc: Chief, Okinawa Bureau  
Chief, Hong Kong Bureau

## Seoul Bureau Production Report for May 1986

## I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	665360
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	161970
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1547

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:	13265.00	5510.00	100.46
(minutes or issues per week)	min.	min.	issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:  
(publishable words per month)

## CHINA

Beijing International service in Korean to Korea	0	
Beijing City Service in Mandarin	1400	
Changchun Jilin Provincial Service in Mandarin	6730	
Harbin Heilongjiang Provincial Service in Mandarin	11320	
Hohhot Nei Monggol Regional Service in Mandarin	12800	
Jinan Shandong Provincial Service in Mandarin	18180	
Shenyang Liaoning Provincial Service in Mandarin	4320	
Shijiazhuang Hebei Provincial Service in Mandarin	510	
Tianjin City Service in Mandarin	1100	
Beijing BEIJING RIBAO in Chinese		5390
Changchun JILIN RIBAO in Chinese		460
Harbin HEILONGJIANG RIBAO in Chinese		4400
Jinan DAZHONG RIBAO in Chinese		4500
Shenyang DONGBEI JINGJI BAO in Chinese		5400
Shenyang LIAONING RIBAO in Chinese		250
Shijiazhuang HEBEI RIBAO in Chinese		49320

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BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
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Tianjin TIANJIN RIBAO in  
Chinese

30000

## CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in  
Korean to South Korea

39420

## KOREA (NORTH)

Pyongyang Domestic Service in  
Korean

173310

Pyongyang Domestic Television Service in  
Korean

0

Pyongyang KCNA in  
English

123630

Pyongyang Editorial Report on DPRK  
Korean

0

Pyongyang KULLOJA in  
Korean

14650

Pyongyang NODONG SINMUN in  
Korean

700

## KOREA (SOUTH)

Seoul Domestic Service in  
Korean

3400

Seoul YONHAP in  
English

50680

Seoul CHOSON ILBO in  
Korean

5180

Seoul CHUANGANG ILBO in  
Korean

3000

Seoul Editorial Report on ROK Media  
Korean

0

Seoul HANGUK ILBO in  
Korean

4000

Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in  
Korean

0

Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in  
Korean

750

Seoul SINTONG-A in  
Korean

0

Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in  
English

27620

Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in  
English

47570

Seoul TONG-A ILBO in  
Korean

9770

## UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Moscow International Service in  
Korean

5600